

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 02422 101952Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06
AGRE-00 /071 W

-----110256Z 128784 /70

R 101759Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 530

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 2422

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EEC, EH, US, UK

SUBJ: EGYPTIAN PURCHASE OF SEED POTATOES FROM MAINE

REF: A) BERN 5255 B) TOFAS 24 B) CAIRO 1809

H&J M BENNETT LTD IS A DISTRIBUTOR AND IMPORTER OF
FRESH POTATOES AND OTHER PRODUCE. THE COMPANY HAS DONE
QUITE WELL IN RECENT YEARS WHEN POTATO BUSINESS HAS BEEN
A HIGHLY SPECULATIVE BUSINESS. BENNETT'S WERE WILLING TO
PAY THE PRICE AND TAKE THE RISK AND IT PAYED HANDSOMELY.
APEX OF INFLUENCE THOUGH HAS DIMINISHED AND BENNETT'S
INTEREST IN POTATOES AS PROFITS ALSO DIMISISHED MAY WANE.

THE EUROPEAN COOPERATIVE ON WHOSE BEHALF BENNETT NOTIFIED
THE GOE REMAINS A MYSTERY. MOST LIKELY IT IS AN
UNOFFICIAL COOPERATIVE OF POTATO TRADERS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 02422 101952Z

MAFF VAGUELY AWARE OF EGYPTIAN PURCHASE AND APPARENTLY
HAVE NOT GIVEN ANY THOUGHT TO RESTRICTIONS ON WARE
POTATOES FROM EGYPT. BENNETT'S REMARKS WERE EVIDENTLY
NOT PROMPTED BY MAFF

THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY BENNETT HOWEVER APPEARS TO BE A

GENUINE ONE AND NOT ONE NECESSARILY PROMPTED BY RESENT-
MENT OF LOSING SEED POTATO SALES TO US THIS YEAR.
BRITISH AND FRENCH TRADERS REPORTEDLY HAVE EXPRESSED
DISAPPOINTMENT ON THE QUALITY OF US SEED POTATOES AND
HEALTH REGULATIONS. SIMPLY, THEY DO NOT REGARD THEM AS
GOOD. THERE DOES APPEAR TO BE A GENUINE FEAR THAT VIRUS
AND DISEASE WILL OCCUR WHEN SEASON STARTS. IMPORTERS
WOULD THEN HAVE TO REQUIRE WASHING OF WARE CROP WHICH
WOULD NOT BE FEASIBLE. CONSEQUENTLY, THEY WOULD NOT BUY
EGYPTIAN POTATOES.
ARMSTRONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SEEDS, EXPORTS, POTATOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON02422
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770048-1100
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770255/aaaabwew.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c95574c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BERN 5255, 77 CAIRO 1809
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3355817
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EGYPTIAN PURCHASE OF SEED POTATOES FROM MAINE
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EG, US, UK, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c95574c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009